GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4868
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
METHANE GAS FROM COAL
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL)

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating any scheme to develop methane gas from coal as an alternative source of energy; and;

(b) if so, the present position of this scheme especially in West Bengal and coal mines of Jharia in Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b) :- Yes, Sir. The Government of India has approved the policy for exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in the country as an alternative source of energy. This policy provides for offer of blocks for exploration and exploitation of CBM through open global competitive bidding. Nine blocks throughout the country, including the states of West Bengal and Bihar, have been identified. Consultations with the concerned State Governments for offer of these blocks have been taken up.